



# Furniture & Cabinetry Care Guide

## Tip 1 – The Finish

Our standard finish is a catalyzed conversion varnish. The finish is considered water-resistant, but if there is a spill, you will want to clean it up right way to avoid any watermarks. Avoid placing hot items directly on the table or furniture piece, such as plates, cups, pans, etc. To keep the finish beautiful and blemish-free, we suggest using coasters or placemats to protect from condensation and extra hot temperatures.

## Tip 2 – Avoid Scratching

To avoid scratching, do not drag or rub items across the table or furniture piece that could leave their mark, such as ceramic mugs and plates, toys, technological devices, etc.

## Tip 3 – General Cleaning

When cleaning and caring for your cabinetry or furniture piece, we suggest using a dry duster or slightly damp cloth with mild soap such as Dawn to remove dust, dirt or stains. Gently wipe the surface area until desired result is achieved. Refrain from rubbing the same surface area for an extended period of time. Do not use any cleaning tools that would scratch the table, furniture piece, or cabinetry, including abrasive cleaning pads. You should never use wax, furniture polish, oils, or any other harsh chemicals and cleaners, including Magic Eraser pads. These methods are not necessary and could potentially damage the finish.

## Tip 4 – Be Aware of Sunlight

Direct sun exposure can fade and stain natural wood and painted finishes. If possible, avoid placing furniture pieces in front of an open window with direct sunlight and closely monitor your cabinetry or furniture piece to ensure sunlight is not affecting it in a negative way.

## Tip 5 – Seasonal Wood Movement & Humidification

Wood fibers swell as they absorb moisture and shrink as they release it, causing the wood to expand and contract. As the relative humidity increases in the summer and decreases in the winter, wood will respond to these seasonal changes through movement. Seasonal movement is to be expected.

The natural response of wood to changes in humidity is much more dramatic than most people realize. In extremely cold, dry winters, wood can be exposed to conditions that are below 20% relative humidity for weeks at a time. Exposure to sustained conditions such as these will cause wood to shrink and not be considered defective. Conversely, where in-home humidity exceeds 70% relative humidity for extended periods of time, wood will swell and this will not be considered defective.

Steps to take to protect wood furnishings:

- **Keep an eye on the humidity inside the home.** Reasonably accurate digital thermometers-hygrometer units are available to measure humidity.
- **Maintain the humidity at or above 20% when the temperature is below 20 degrees and over 35% when the temperature is above 20 degrees.** Some ways this may be accomplished are installing a whole-house humidifier on the furnace, running a portable humidifier in key rooms, or placing pans of water near the heat registers.

- **Don't over-do it.** Significant condensation on windows is a sign the humidity levels are too high for outside temperature conditions.
- **Recognize that finished wood responds to humidity over several days to several weeks.** It takes time before the wood returns to normal after any correction to the environment.

### **Tip 6 – Be Smart**

Although we build our furniture and cabinetry products to be durable and sturdy, we do not recommend standing, sitting, jumping, or laying on them. This may cause damage to the furniture piece or cabinetry and encourage unsafe behavior.

### **Directions Specifically for the Care of Furniture Finished with Rubio Monocoat**

Rubio Monocoat is a natural and environmentally friendly oil. It creates an extremely durable finish and enhances the natural beauty and grain of wood furniture. Caring for your Rubio Monocoat oil finished surface is simple, and when done properly, keeps your furniture looking beautiful for a lifetime.

#### **Cleaning:**

Once your furniture piece is finished with Rubio Monocoat, you should allow at least 5 days for it to fully cure before cleaning with liquids. Keeping dirt and grit off of wooden furniture will greatly extend the life of the finish.

There are two options for cleaning your oiled furniture:

1. Slightly damp rag (NOT dripping wet)
2. Use Rubio Monocoat Soap or Surface Care Spray, which are the ONLY recommended cleaners

Surface Care Spray or properly diluted Rubio Monocoat Soap are the only recommended cleaners for your oil finished furniture. These cleaners will remove all dirt and grease thoroughly, without leaving a film or affecting the matte natural look of the wood. Again, be sure to only use a damp rag and not saturate the surface with liquid.

Rubio Monocoat Soap is extremely concentrated. One liter of Soap will make approximately 26 gallons of cleaning solution. When Rubio Monocoat soap is mixed with water into a cleaning solution, it is called Surface Care Spray. Mix Rubio Monocoat Soap with water at a ratio of 1:100 (1 gallon of water to 1.3 fluid oz of soap).

Surface Care Spray is the mixed and ready-to-use version of Rubio Monocoat Soap. Surface Care Spray is great to have on hand for spot cleaning areas in the event of a spill.

How to use Surface Care Spray:

Spray Surface Care Spray onto the surface and clean gently using a microfiber cloth or rag.

#### **Maintenance:**

Since no artificial toxic hardeners are used to increase the durable life of the finish, periodic rejuvenation is necessary, usually between 2 and 6 years, depending on climate, use, and care.

Renew is a ready-to-use product that refreshes, restores, and protects surfaces treated with Rubio oil. It brings the surface back to a freshly oiled state. Renew should be used when the surface starts to feel too dry or rough, or when the finish has worn down due to heavy use.

How to use Renew:

Simply apply Renew onto the dry looking area, leave it to react for 3-5 minutes, then wipe dry, being sure to remove all excess. Allow the area to dry for 4-6 hours before light use.

## Renovation if the surface is compromised:

Rubio Monocoat offers a care product called “Tannin Remover.” This product can be used to remove dark spots on untreated, oiled, and waxed wood surfaces caused by a reaction to acid and water. It can also be used after water damage and in case of efflorescence.

If the color of the surface is affected and the below products do not remedy the issue, you will need to perform a renovation application using Oil plus 2C in the original color. If this is the case, please contact us at Beyond Stock and we will evaluate the surface area and remedy solutions.

## Where to purchase care products mentioned above:



<https://www.rubiomonocoatusa.com/products/surface-care-spray>



<https://www.rubiomonocoatusa.com/products/soap>



<https://www.rubiomonocoatusa.com/products/renew>



<https://www.rubiomonocoatusa.com/products/tannin-remover>